

South Carolina Department of Natural Resources
Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Committee
Conference Call Minutes, March 15, 2019
Conference Room 205, Rembert Dennis Building
Columbia, South Carolina

Members Present:

Chairman Michael Hutchins, Titus Duren, Martha Herbert, Stephen Thomas and Sam Hiott.

Members Absent:

Vice Chairman Cleveland Smith, Robert Garmany, Jonathan Rabon and Stan Halliday.

Staff Present:

Emily Cope, Billy Dukes and Shelley Ivester.

Others Present:

There were no constituents present.

Prior to the conference call, members were emailed copies of the 2019-2020 Migratory Bird Frameworks and the Staff Recommendations. Committee Members Smith, Garmany and Halliday agreed with staff recommendations via electronic mail since they could not participate in the conference call. Committee member Rabon electronically supported the recommendation of Stephen Thomas to move Teal season up by one day.

Billy Dukes, Chief of Wildlife, gave a verbal overview of the Frameworks, with one notable change being the closing date on Dove and Waterfowl Seasons being moved to January 31st. Dove season will start on Labor Day this year. A copy of the Frameworks is attached to the original minutes.

The 2019-2020 Migratory Bird Season Staff Recommendations were approved as read by Billy Dukes except that committee member Stephen Thomas would like to recommend to the DNR Board that Teal season open one day early, Friday, September 13, instead of Saturday, September 14 (staff recommended dates are Sept. 14-29, 2019), since shrimp season opens at noon on Friday, September 13, and alligator season opens Saturday, September 14 at noon.

A motion was made by Sam Hiott to accept and support the staff recommendations as presented, but to also pass along Stephen Thomas' suggestion to open Teal Season 1 day early to the SCDNR Board. Martha Herbert seconded the motion and the motion was carried.

Chair Hutchins adjourned the meeting.